# Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures

## :: NEWS BULLETIN ::

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### THE BUYER BEWARE PROGRAM ANNOUNCES: THE LATEST LISTING OF STORES CONVICTED OF OVERCHARGING

The Los Angeles County *Buyer Beware Program* was established by ordinance in February 2002 for the purpose of protecting consumers from being overcharged at stores using electronic scanners. A component of the *Program* is the periodic release of the names, and addresses of stores recently convicted of overcharging Weights and Measures staff during their inspections.

A Weights and Measures price accuracy inspection is intended to simulate a typical shopping experience. An undercover inspector enters a store, and selects various items of merchandise (up to 15). These items are then taken to the checkstand where they are scanned. The receipt is compared with the advertised or posted prices. If there are no overcharges, the inspection is over. The manager is offered a "No Overcharges Found" sign to post at the store entrance.

If the inspector finds an overcharge, the store is issued a notice of violation. An overcharge of \$1.00 or less is an infraction, and any overcharge more than \$1.00 is a misdemeanor. Ultimately, after the proper due process results in a conviction, a "Notice of Overcharge Conviction" sign will be placed at the store entrance for 60 days.

Persons with complaints about scanner overcharges may call 1 (800) 655-2900, or may e-mail <a href="mailto:scanners@acwm.co.la.ca.us">scanners@acwm.co.la.ca.us</a>. A complete listing of stores convicted of overcharging can be found at the department's website: <a href="http://acwm.co.la.ca.us">http://acwm.co.la.ca.us</a>.

Listed below are cases that were recently completed:

#### 1. Albertson's Inc., #6371, 7134 Sepulveda Blvd., Van Nuys

Date of offense: 3/07/02

Charges: 2 counts of scanner overcharge (\$1.36)

Convictions: 2 counts, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$623.00 Case #2PN0535901

#### 2. Albertson's Inc., #6547, 725 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

Date of offense: 4/30/02

Charges: 5 counts of scanner overcharge (\$1.64)

Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$918.00

Case #SA00017

#### 3. Albertson's Inc., #6104, 13401 Washington Blvd., Marina Del Rey

Date of offense: 6/02/02

Charges: 2 counts of scanner overcharge (\$0.50)

Convictions: 2 counts, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$1940.00 Case #2PN0536201

#### 4. Albertson's Inc., #6169, 8985 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles

Date of offense: 7/11/02

Charges: 2 counts of scanner overcharge (\$4.88)

Convictions: 2 counts, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$1650.00 Case #2PN0536001

#### 5. Albertson's Inc., #6121, 5750 Mesmer Ave., Culver City

Date of offense: 11/27/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP086

#### 6. Ann-Taylor #177, 495 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena

Date of offense: 10/09/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP071

#### 7. Auto Zone, Inc., #2814, 1050 Huntington Drive, Duarte

Date of offense: 5/09/02

Charges: 2 counts of scanner overcharge (\$1.58)

Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$750.51 Case #2SA00016

#### 8. Auto Zone, Inc., #5443, 4301 Cesar Chavez, Los Angeles

Date of offense: 11/20/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP083

#### 9. Bellflower Recycling, 17326 Woodruff Ave., Bellflower

Date of offense: 3/19/01

Charges: 10 counts of purchase of less than true quantity

Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$2734.36

Case#1LC02973

#### 10. Bi-Rite Market, 2913 B, Broadway Ave., Los Angeles

Date of offense: 10/10/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for

one overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File # 02/03-SP072

#### 11. Blockbuster Video #6572, 2175 Colorado Blvd., Eagle Rock

Date of offense: 10/22/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP074

#### 12. Beyond The Beach, 146 Los Cerritos Center, Cerritos

Date of offense: 10/30/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for

one overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP077

#### 13. Cali Fashion, 2700 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles

Date of offense: 10/29/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for

one overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP078

#### 14. Cost Plus, Inc., 229 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance

Date of offense: 5/06/02

Charges: 1 count of scanner overcharge (\$0.99)

Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$697.12

Case #2SB07301

#### 15. Food 4 Less #776, 5100 Figueroa St., Los Angeles

Date of offense: 11/07/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for

one overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP079

#### 16. Fry's Electronics #5., 3600 Sepulveda Blvd., Manhattan Beach

Date of offense: 12/07/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for

one overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP090

#### 17. Jons Market #9, 1717 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale

Date of offense: 11/12/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for

one overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP081

#### 18. Office Depot, #947., 725 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

Date of offense: 5/02/02

Charges: 4 counts of scanner overcharge (\$27.37)

Convictions: 2 counts, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$1982.29

Case #3SA00018

#### 19. Old Navy,#5537, 1600 Azusa Ave., #109, City Of Industry

Date of offense: 7/11/02

Charges: 1 count of scanner overcharge (\$1.03)

Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$1338.04

Case #2JM08910

#### 20. Orchard Supply Hardware., 641 N. Victory Blvd., Burbank

Date of offense: 10/16/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP073

#### 21. Party City Of Alhambra, 2500 W. Commonwealth, Alhambra

Date of offense: 10/24/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine of one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP076

#### 22. Pep Boys #894, 4520 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City

Date of offense: 11/26/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP085

#### 23. Sav-On Drugs #9717, 13021 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood

Date of offense: 3/06/02

Charges: 2 counts of scanner overcharge (\$6.77)

Convictions: 2 counts, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$1460.00 Case #2PN0539401

#### 24. Sav-On Drugs, #9707, 14735 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks

Date of offense: 5/06/02

Charges: 1 count of scanner overcharge (\$0.60)

Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$597.00 Case #2PN0541801

#### 25. Sav-On Drugs. #9401, 219 Lincoln Blvd., Venice

Date of offense: 6/02/02

Charges: 4 counts of scanner overcharge (\$11.85)

Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$2360.00

Case #2PN05396

#### 26. Sav-On Drugs, #9451, 13171 Mindanao Way, Marina Del Rey

Date of offense: 11/20/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP084

#### 27. Sav-On Drugs, #9734, 2500 W. Victory Blvd., Burbank

Date of offense: 12/03/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP087

#### 28. 7-Eleven #17853, 601 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra

Date of offense: 10/23/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File # 02/02-SP075

#### 29. Staples, Inc., #60, 1833 B La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles

Date of offense: 3/12/02

Charges: 2 counts of scanner overcharge (\$0.80)

Convictions: 2 counts, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$597.00 Case #2PN0539401

#### 30. Superior Super Whs., 1375 N. Citrus Ave., Covina

Date of offense: 11/05/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP082

#### 31. Target,#302, 1050 E. Huntington Dr., Duarte

Date of offense: 5/13/02

Charges: 4 counts of scanner overcharge Convictions: 1 count, nolo contendere

Fines and fees: \$1512.20

Case #3SA00013

#### 32. Target, #228, 6635 Fallbrook Ave., West Hills

Date of offense: 12/05/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP088

#### 33. The Great Indoors, #1922, 1301 Victory Pl., Burbank

Date of offense: 12/05/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for one

overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP089

#### 34. Valu Plus #22, 6820 De Soto Ave., Canoga Park

Date of offense: 11/12/02

Convictions: Assessed a \$100.00 civil administrative fine for

one overcharge of \$1.00 or less

File #02/03-SP080